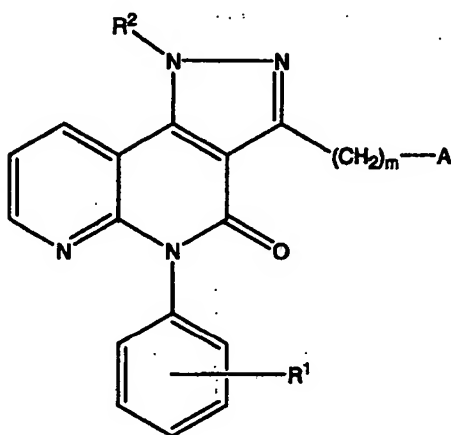


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Original) A compound of the formula (1):



(1)

wherein:

A is phenyl, pyridyl, 1-oxypyridyl, or thienyl, which may be unsubstituted or optionally substituted with one or more members selected from the group consisting of hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, lower alkyl, lower alkoxy, lower alkylcarbonyloxy, amino, carboxyl, lower alkoxy carbonyl, carboxy-lower alkylene, lower alkoxy carbonyl-lower alkylene, lower alkylsulfonyl, lower alkylsulfonylamino, and ureido;

R¹ is a group selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, hydroxyl, halogen, cyano, nitro, lower alkoxy, amino, carboxyl, and lower alkoxy carbonyl;

R² is hydrogen or lower alkyl; and

m is an integer of 1 to 3;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A is phenyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

3. (Original) The compound according to Claim 1, wherein A is pyridyl or 1-oxypyridyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

4. (Original) A compound, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, which is selected from the group consisting of

3-benzyl-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]-naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
5-phenyl-3-[2-(1-oxypyridin-4-yl)ethyl]-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]-naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
5-(3-nitrophenyl)-3-[2-(pyridin-4-yl)ethyl]-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]-naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-(4-fluorobenzyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]-naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-(4-carboxymethylbenzyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-(2-methoxybenzyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-(2-nitrobenzyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-(2,5-dimethoxybenzyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-(4-ethoxycarbonylmethylbenzyl)-5-phenyl-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-benzyl-5-(3-cyanophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one,
3-benzyl-5-(3-nitrophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one and
3-benzyl-5-(3-fluorophenyl)-1H-pyrazolo[4,3-c][1,8]naphthyridin-4(5H)-one.

5. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

6. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting a phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor

comprising contacting an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a phosphodiesterase IV.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) ~~A drug comprising an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,~~

A method said drug for preventing and/or treating a mammal with at least one respiratory disease selected from the group consisting of:

bronchial asthma including chronic bronchial asthma and atopic asthma; acute bronchitis; chronic bronchitis; asthmatic bronchitis; pneumonic diseases; pulmonary emphysema; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

9. (Currently amended) ~~An anti-asthmatic~~ A method for treating a mammal with asthma comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

10. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

11. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in

admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

12. (Previously presented) A pharmaceutical composition which comprises an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in admixture with a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

13. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting a phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor comprising contacting an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a phosphodiesterase IV.

14. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting a phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor comprising contacting an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a phosphodiesterase IV.

15. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting a phosphodiesterase IV inhibitor comprising contacting an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, with a phosphodiesterase IV.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Currently amended) ~~A drug comprising an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,~~

~~said drug A method for preventing and/or treating a mammal with~~ at least one respiratory disease selected from the group consisting of:

bronchial asthma including chronic bronchial asthma and atopic asthma; acute bronchitis; chronic bronchitis; asthmatic bronchitis; pneumonic diseases; pulmonary emphysema; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

20. (Currently amended) ~~A drug comprising an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,~~

~~said drug A method for preventing and/or treating a mammal with~~ at least one respiratory disease selected from the group consisting of:

bronchial asthma including chronic bronchial asthma and atopic asthma; acute bronchitis; chronic bronchitis; asthmatic bronchitis; pneumonic diseases; pulmonary emphysema; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

21. (Currently amended) ~~A drug comprising an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof,~~

~~said drug A method for preventing and/or treating a mammal with~~ at least one respiratory disease selected from the group consisting of:

bronchial asthma including chronic bronchial asthma and atopic asthma; acute bronchitis; chronic bronchitis; asthmatic bronchitis; pneumonic diseases; pulmonary

emphysema; chronic obstructive pulmonary disease (COPD); and acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS)

said method comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

22. (Currently amended) ~~An anti-asthmatic~~ A method for treating a mammal with asthma comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 2, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

23. (Currently amended) ~~An anti-asthmatic~~ A method for treating a mammal with asthma comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 3, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.

24. (Currently amended) ~~An anti-asthmatic~~ A method for treating a mammal with asthma comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 4, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, to said mammal.